

Lebanese Govt Beirut House meet

The Lebanese Government met in Beirut yesterday to discuss a partial curfew in an expected declaration of emergency.

The curfew will cover a one-hour period in the morning and the capital to enable the 99-man Parliament to meet for a policy statement.

The statement will continue until the policy statement is approved by a vote of confidence.

The cabinet of eight or nine members, including Speaker Kamel Assad, will meet to discuss the curfew.

The curfew will be in effect from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. and from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The curfew will be in effect in the capital and in the surrounding areas.

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Swiss expel Menten, send him to Holland

THE HAGUE — Millionaire Dutchman Pieter Menten, wanted here for questioning about Nazi killings of Jews 35 years ago, arrived back in Holland yesterday after being expelled from Switzerland.

The Swiss Government handed him over to Dutch authorities after Dutch Justice Minister Andreas van Duyn gave assurances that the Netherlands would not extradite him to a further country to face trial for alleged war crimes.

The 77-year-old art dealer had asked for this assurance because he did not want to risk being put on trial in a Communist country for the alleged crimes, the Swiss Justice and Police Minister, Dr. Kurt Furgler, told a Bern press conference.

Menten was flown here in a Dutch government light aircraft and taken to an unknown destination.

He has denied allegations that he was involved in mass killings of Jews in 1941 in the Polish village of Podhorodce, Urycz and Lvov, which now form part of the Soviet Union.

Menten escaped from Holland on November 15 just as police were about to question him at his luxury villa near Amsterdam. An international warrant was taken out for his arrest and he was detained by Swiss police on December 6, while staying at an hotel near Zurich.

Menten, who attempted suicide shortly after he was taken into Swiss custody, has denied all charges and claims he is the target of a Communist propaganda campaign.

The Swiss decision to expel him came at a regular meeting of the seven-man Federal Cabinet. The Justice Ministry said in a communiqué it was based on documents supplied by the Netherlands.

"There is suspicion that Menten partly gave execution orders and partly shot and killed persons himself," the communiqué said.

The case, which has spurred a major political row in the Netherlands, is being handled by the Dutch authorities.



Pieter Menten tries to shield himself from photographers as he is taken by police to Zurich's Kloten Airport yesterday, where he was put on a plane and returned to the Netherlands. (UPI telephoto)

Dinitz asks Kissinger to push for more aid

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON — In an apparent last-ditch effort to increase the outgoing Ford administration's economic and military aid recommendations for Israel during the next fiscal year, Israel Ambassador Simcha Dinitz yesterday met with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and appealed to him to exert his influence on the President to reject the advice of the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which is proposing considerably less assistance than Israel has requested.

According to informed sources here, Dinitz asked that Israel receive as much of its requested \$2.5 billion aid as possible, and that, in any case, the President increase the \$1.5 billion allocation recommended by the Office of Management and Budget.

Kissinger is reported to be recommending that the aid bill include approximately the same amount of assistance for Israel included in the present year's programme — roughly \$1.7 billion.

White House sources disclosed earlier this week that the President decided to endorse the Office of Management and Budget recommendation, rather than that of the State Department, shortly before leaving Washington for a two-week holiday in Vail, Colorado.

Yesterday, Israeli sources here denied that the President has al-

ready reached a final decision. They expressed hope that Ford would still consider Israel's initial request.

Even though Ford leaves office on January 20, he is required by law to submit to the Congress a budget for the fiscal 1978 year, which begins October 1, 1977.

Dinitz, who is aware of the OMB's \$1.5 billion recommendation, \$350 million less than the \$2 billion in military aid and \$500 million in economic assistance — apparently felt that another direct appeal to Kissinger yesterday might yet result in a decision by Ford to increase the aid recommendation.

No one here expects Israel to receive anything close to the \$2.5 billion requested. In general, American officials in the State Department and the White House are convinced that that original request was "inflated" and that Israel can do with considerably less.

Most observers here maintain that a decision by Ford to include \$1.7 billion in the 1978 aid bill for Israel would represent a diplomatic "victory" for Jerusalem, especially in light of the fact that the OMB is pressing for only \$1.5 billion.

Dinitz and Kissinger, who are both leaving this week for vacations, also discussed other "bilateral" U.S. Israeli problems, as well as the general situation in the Middle East.

Sources here said that progress was made on implementing Israel's pending arms requests from the U.S.

Rabin denies manipulation

TIBERIAS — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin denied yesterday that he manipulated in order to hold early elections. He also opposed the call for change in the Labour Party leadership.

Rabin kicked off his party's election campaign last night in an address to Labour party members in the north.

"We have the ability to increase our number in the Knesset," he said. "The major choice for the voter, he felt, was between the Likud and Labour. The choice was between 'a Zionism of accomplishment and declarative Zionism,' said Rabin.

Eban 'to ask' consideration for top spot

Former Foreign Minister, Abba Eban yesterday held out the possibility that he might challenge Prime Minister Rabin for the premiership next year.

Interviewed on Israel TV's "Mabul" programme last night, Eban said that he would "ask party members to consider 'the possibility that I might be able to inject a unifying spirit into the (Labour) party.'"

He said that if the Labour Party did not present a "new team and a new leader of the team, it will fail to gain public confidence."

Eban said that he did not see "any other candidate" with an advantage over him, citing his parliamentary, political, ministerial and international experience.

Mapam would quit if Peres named

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Some Mapam leaders yesterday threatened to discontinue the alignment with Labour if Labour nominates Shimon Peres as its candidate for the premiership. But no formal Mapam decision is expected at the moment.

Peres is considered too hawkish for Mapam. Naftali Ben-Moshe told his party's political committee yesterday: "We must demand that (the next Prime Minister) be chosen in consultation with us. I want to be in a position to reassure (our) camp that this danger isn't expected."

Ben-Moshe's demand was not en-

dorsed apparently because Mapam leaders realized Labour would resist such intervention.

A senior party official said after the meeting he did not want to become involved now in the contest between Peres and Prime Minister Rabin but "if there will be a situation (where Peres is likely to become Labour's candidate) an appropriate proposal (on the Alignment's future) may be tabled in the (Mapam) convention." The official added: "You've got to use your brains in this matter."

Labour and Mapam leaders will next week begin talks on the other conditions for continuing their align-

ment. Mapam will decide on the Alignment's future at its convention scheduled for January 30.

Observers do not believe Labour leaders will make any significant political undertakings. The Labour leaders have refrained from doing so in the past, claiming they cannot commit their party to new policies before appropriate decisions are made at the Labour convention beginning on February 22. Accordingly, Mapam had originally scheduled its convention for March but the political committee last night advanced the date.

March would be too late to decide to run on a separate ticket, party secretary-general Meir Talmi said.

Moves due on new gov't election date

Rabin rejects leadership change; Mapam warns it could walk out; Dayan: No concessions

Both the Alignment and Likud make the first moves after Prime Minister Rabin's resignation by calling on President Katzir next Sunday to discuss the formation of a new government. Later next week, the two factions will table bills in the Knesset for setting the election date in May.

Rabin yesterday rejected calls for a change in the Labour Party leadership,

as Mapam warned that it would quit the Alignment if Defence Minister Peres were nominated as a candidate for the premiership. Ex-Foreign Minister Abba Eban told Israel TV he considers himself a possible candidate.

Moshe Dayan last night warned the Labour Party against including any plank in its platform for territorial concessions.

Meetings with Katzir Dayan warns on giving up areas

By ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Alignment and the Likud have been invited to call on President Ephraim Katzir on Sunday to discuss the formation of a new government.

This statutory procedure, which follows a Government's resignation, just as it also follows an election, will take place simultaneously with the procedure to dissolve the Knesset and set a date for new elections — a procedure which could last as long as a month.

The Likud will tell Katzir that although they have tabled a bill to hold elections on May 3, they would like him to ask some MEK to try and form a new Government until the election bill is passed into law. The Likud will suggest that Katzir ask their leader Menachem Begin, to form the new Government.

The Likud wants to impress the idea on the public, that governments in this country can be formed without the Alignment at their head. However, they doubt whether that can be done now. The Likud also feels that since the Alignment is concentrating solely on elections, it is up to them to show the public that an alternative procedure — forming a new Government — is just as legitimate.

A Likud Liberal, Yehuda Be'eri, said: "After an election, the head of the biggest faction usually forms the new Government. After Rabin's resignation, the faction which did a lot to topple him, the Likud, should try and form the Government."

A Likud Herut member, Haim Landau, said: "We've never had a minority caretaker Government in Israel before. That's why we're trying now to form a majority Government. No Alignment man can do that at present."

The National Religious Party which has been invited to see Katzir on Monday will blame the crisis on Rabin. Faction chairman Avraham Melamed said: "I'm not sure

an alternative Government now, without the Alignment, is realistic, but it's worth talking about."

The ILP's faction chairman Yehuda Sha'ari said: "We want elections. An alternative government won't work and it isn't worth all the fuss and bother."

The Citizens Rights Movement wants early elections and not an alternative Government. The Free Centre's Aviva Nof said he would propose his leader Shmuel Tamir for Premier when he saw President Katzir.

Seasoned parliamentary observers say that the Likud and the National Religious Party are trying to make life difficult for the Alignment by legitimate constitutional moves, to show the Alignment that "it can't have it all its own way."

President Katzir will have time to invite all the factions in the Knesset, and perhaps some of them more than once, before the election legislation to be debated next week finally becomes law.

Two election bills

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A significant practical step towards the elections will be taken next Tuesday or Wednesday when two private members' bills, one from the Likud and the other from the Alignment, will have their preliminary readings.

The Likud private bill tabled by Menachem Begin two months ago names May 3 as the election day. The Alignment private bill to be tabled by Aviad Yaffe names May 31 as the day. The two biggest factions may perhaps agree on a half-way date in mid-May.

The Alignment has so far failed to find co-sponsors for its bill, but it does have promises from factions which still refuse to be named, to vote for it.

Though the two bills will come up on the same day, Begin will have the privilege of speaking first. (Continued on page 2, col. 7)



Prime Minister Rabin leans forward while listening to a speaker at Labour Party's Central Committee meeting in Jerusalem on Tuesday night. Right to left are Police Minister Hillel, Minister Galili and Foreign Minister Allon. (Ben-Ami, Sunphot)

GALILI: SETTLEMENT IMPORTANT

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel's policy of maximum settlement of the land will continue even under the caretaker government, Minister without Portfolio Yisrael Galili stated in the Knesset yesterday.

"A change in the makeup of the Cabinet does not mean a change in policy on this matter," he said in reply to two agenda motions on the need for large-scale land settlement. "Even with the departure of the National Religious Party from the Government we shall persevere in setting up new settlements on both sides of the green line."

Galili said settlement was more important than ever now "after the recent developments in the UN General Assembly and Security Council."

One of the agenda motions came from David Coren of the Alignment. Calling for a boost in settlement throughout the country, Coren called for a speedup in development of Maale Adumim, on the Jerusalem-Jericho road. He also suggested a "rapprochement" with the Ailon Moreh settlement group now at the controversial Kaddum site in Samaria.

In the second motion, Yigael Cohen of Likud-Leumi called for a four-year crash programme of developing rural and town settlements. He suggested construction of 150,000 housing units in development towns and establishment of 46 new settlements.

Both motions were referred to the Labour Committee.

Order nisi against gov't, ILP

The High Court of Justice yesterday ordered the Government and Ministers Moshe Kol and Gideon Hausner to explain within one week why the two should not continue serving in their Cabinet posts.

The two orders nisi were handed down in response to the petition of the advocate Yitzhak Barzilay, acting as "a taxpayer citizen who has the right to know who is in his Government."

As a result of the court orders, the Attorney-General will have to present a brief to the court. The Attorney-General has already expressed his opinion that the ILP ministers must continue to serve in the caretaker government. If he does not respond to the order nisi within the appointed time, the court order automatically becomes binding. (Itim)

mourn the loss of our beloved Father
and Grandfather

LOUIS H. BOYAR

Passed away in Los Angeles after a lifetime
dedication to the Jewish People, to Israel and to
the City of Jerusalem which he called home.

His inspiration will always be the guiding light
of our lives in Israel.

Pearlie and Bob Goodman,
Karen, Teve, Peter, Matthew,
Julie, Amy

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Board of Governors of the University
its faculty and students
deeply mourn the passing of

LOUIS H. BOYAR

Deputy Chairman of the Board of Governors
and builder of Mount Scopus

and extend heartfelt condolences
to the bereaved family

Payments balance deficit \$3b.

—drop of \$800m. from last year

By GIDYON ESHET
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel's balance of payments deficit this year will be about \$3b. — a decline of \$800m., or 21 per cent, from 1975 — according to figures released by the Central Bureau of Statistics yesterday.

The figures covered the first nine months of 1976. They showed that half of the improvement was caused by a 21 per cent increase in exports of goods, which for the first three quarters reached 1,912m., compared with 1,585m. for the same period last year. Exports of services rose by only 8 per cent.

Imports of goods dropped — by 3 per cent, to \$2,755m. Direct defence imports, amounting to \$1,470m., were \$200m. (15 per cent) less than last year.

The drop in defence imports was caused mainly by delaying imports; and not by reducing the total size of them. Therefore, next year's defence import figures can be expected to rise.

According to Treasury officials, 1977's deficit will hold at \$3b. Earlier estimates had predicted a \$200m. improvement in the deficit next year; this has been erased by the higher defence imports.

U.S. Government aid and contributions from World Jewry amounted to \$1,621m., compared to \$1,388m. in the first nine months of last year.

Israel's foreign currency debt increased by \$703m., to a total of \$10.7b. During the same period last year, debts increased by \$1,327m.

Israel Investors Corporation
and its affiliated companies

mourn with deep sorrow
the death of their beloved

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...the election over with so a
serious anti-inflationary measu
can be imposed. These measu
are felt to be urgent now, but
Government dare not implem
them for fear of scaring the vote

them for fear of scaring the vote
the Alignment source said.

BACKGROUND REPORT [REDACTED] SARAH HONIG

Most mayors oppose early elections

U.S. Professor Edward Alexander and his wife Leah arriving in London on Tuesday after being refused entry into Russia. The Alexanders had intended spending a brief holiday visiting Jewish friends when they were held for 24 hours at Moscow Airport. The professor said that he had not been invited to the Jewish symposium, but he had intended to contact a few of the organizers "as a gesture of moral support." (AP radiophone)

Four Defence Ministry men guilty of taking bribes

TEL AVIV. --Four former employees of the Defense Ministry's transport and maintenance department were Tuesday found guilty of taking bribes from transport contractors. Sentences will be passed at a later date by the Tel Aviv District Court.

The four are: Yitzhak Rubin, 40, of Ramatana, former director of the transport section in the Defense Ministry department; Yisrael Rosenzweig, 63, of Holon, former head of the department's maintenance unit; Gavriel Kol-Namer, 42, of Bat Yam, formerly of the transport section; and Eliyahu Cohen, 31, also of Bat Yam, who worked in the accounts department.

The man who was accused on the same charges, Ya'acov Yisraeli, 63, of Tel Aviv, was acquitted.

Was also a form of bribery since he begged handles great deal of army transport. The cheques for IL280,000 and IL600 that Rubin received from contractors for his son's brit milah ceremony were also seen as bribes.

Yisrael Rosenzweig was found guilty of accepting bribes from industrialist Amnon Avni, who had been convicted of bribery in 1974. The court that he gave Rosenzweig bribes so that he would "not make any trouble" in his day-to-day business contacts with the ministry. Rosenzweig took IL5,000 worth of gift coupons and other fringe benefits from ministry contractors in the years 1973 and 1974. He also received a diamond watch and a pocket calculator from one contractor but returned them after a year.

55% of Russians drop out in '76

TEL. AVIV. — Fifty five per cent of Russian Jews who left the USSR on Israeli visas dropped out along the way in 1976. This was one of the statistics presented to agricultural students in Rehovot by WZO chairman Yosef Almogi yesterday.

The total number of immigrants in 1976 was 20,000, among them 8,000 from the USSR. This equaled the immigration in 1975, Almogi said.

The main problem of Israel today, he said, is its power of attraction as a society of quality immigration today is based on motivation, he pointed out, not on anti-Jewish pressures. (Tim)

Who's eligible for student stipends

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Only students who have done military service and do at least 15 days of reserve duty annually or have an alternative to reserve duty work for communal institutions or are doing some form of communal volunteer work will be eligible for the IL700 stipends to be given this year by the National Students Federation.

It was announced this week by the N.S.F. The granting of the stipend was decided upon when the N.S.F. the Minister of Education, and the heads of six of Israel's universities on October 29 signed an agreement raising the tuition fee to IL4,933. The Technion Students Union is not party to the agreement.

All full-time or part-time students will be eligible, except those who receive stipends from a stipend, who are exempt from tuition fees or whose study is subsidized by a public institution.

Bethlehem ready for Christmas; Jews are asked to stay away

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Minister Moshe Kol yeshay appealed to Israeli Jews to stay away from Bethlehem on Christmas.

He noted that thousands of visitors would be visiting the town. Many of them have come from overseas for the holiday. Give them a chance to enjoy it, he said.

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij expects over 20,000 visitors to pass through the town on Christmas Eve on Christmas Day. Bethlehem has been specially cleaned up and decorated for the holiday.

Because Christmas falls on Saturday this year, Israeli dignitaries will attend the Christmas ceremony.

Usually the procession and service is attended by high ranking police and army officials, as well as the mayor of Jerusalem.

Minister Raphael M.K., former Minister of Religious Affairs, condemned reported plans by Egged to run shuttle buses between Jerusalem and Bethlehem and appealed to the Tourism and Transport Ministers to veto this. Both ministers agreed that they would do all they could to prevent any desecration of Sabbath. Agudat Israel's Avraham Wandiger, meanwhile, asked for urgent Knesset debate on Big's plan.

In Jerusalem the 800 Christmas trees distributed gratis by the municipality yesterday proved to be insufficient. A municipal official said that there had been greater demand for trees than in previous years. Since the trees are provided by the Jewish National Fund — and the municipality only distributes them, he could offer no help to those who were disappointed.

There was a risk, yesterday, that the Mass in Bethlehem on Christmas Eve would not be televised live this year, because the cameramen have been refusing to work in the West Bank, for the past week. They have claimed that the Broadcasting Authority would have to take out a personal risk insurance of IL250,000 for each of them. But the problem was soon solved by an announcement from the general manager of the authority that such insurance would be arranged.

In Jerusalem, Mayor Teddy Kollek yesterday gave his traditional end of the year reception, at the Municipal chambers. Hundreds of Jewish, Moslem and Christian guests attended, in one of the largest such crowds since the Six Day War. The guests included church leaders, diplomats, mukhtars, and other Arab leaders from East Jerusalem.

(See Holiday Season, page 5)

Baha'i celebrate holiest days

Jerusalem Post Reporter

FA. — The Baha'i community celebrate two holy days, the birthdays of the founders of the faith, the Bab and Baha'ullah, today and tomorrow respectively. They are the holiest days in the calendar of the faith.

The Bab was born in Shiraz, Iran, Mirza Ali Muhamed in 1819, and his prophetic age started with coming to the community of new religion. Continuation of the existing faiths would unify mankind. He called himself Bab al Din (Gate of the Faithful) and heralded the

eminent appearance of a man who would found the new faith. The authorities considered his preaching a heresy. He was imprisoned and was executed by a firing squad in Tabriz in 1850.

Baha'ullah, (Glory of God) was born a Persian nobleman, Mirza Hussein Ali, and in 1863 proclaimed that he was the universal prophet whose coming the Bab had foretold. He was considered a heretic and spent most of his life in exile and in prison. He was brought to Acre in 1868 and died in prison there in 1892. He is buried in Acre and the Bab in Haifa.

Enthusiasm for plan to build Robinson's Arch

IN RABINOVICH
in Post Reporter

Overseering archaeologists in Jerusalem have announced that the dawn reconstruction of the Temple Mount will be a stairway leading to the Arch.

Now, headed by Prof. Yigael Yadin, the committee recommended the such a plan at its recently. However, Yadin has been the proponent for political, religious and historical reasons. The stairway, named after a prophet, was long pre-banned part of a bridge spanning the Temple Mount with the Temple Mount.

Yadin's plan (Jerusalem Quarter.)

Yadin's proposals following the Six Day War, including one for a bridge to the Temple Mount, was rejected. The bridge was not built. In addition, the reconstruction history, it was not a bridge would give access to the Western Wall.

Yadin, by defining its southern boundary.

However, the excavations by Prof. Yigael Yadin, Mazar established that there had been no bridge leading from Robinson's Arch but a massive L-shaped stairway leading from the Arch to the Temple Mount to the Herodian street below.

An archaeologist familiar with the proposal told *The Jerusalem Post* this week that the reconstruction would be very costly and aesthetically pleasing. The gate from which the stairway lead no longer existed, he said. The reconstructed stairway would thus lead out from a blank wall, a wall whose handsomely dressed Herodian stones had been replaced in its upper layers by smaller stones from later periods. Furthermore, said the archaeologist, the Moslem authorities would doubtless prevent such reconstruction because the stairway would touch the Temple Mount. He thought it was extremely unlikely that the stairway would ever be built.

Police save children from burning flat

Jerusalem Post Reporter
BEERSHEVA. — Police Tuesday saved the lives of four children who were locked in a burning flat in Dimona.

The children's mother had forgotten to remove a frying pan full of oil from the gas range before leaving the flat with her children inside. When she came back she found the flat in flames. She phoned the police who rushed to the scene. The mother told them that five children were locked in the flat and fainting.

Inspector David Sadeh, deputy commander of the Dimona police station, broke into the flat with other policemen and rescued the four children—none of them hurt.

Subsidies paid on over-quota production Egg and Poultry Board scored

Subsidies p Egg and

In mid-1975, after inspecting the board's affairs, the State Comptroller submitted to the Agriculture Ministry a list of 270 "quota owners" (quotas, like taxi licences, are owned and treated like property) — who did not produce at all, or produced less than half their quota, for the previous three years. He suggested cancelling these quotas or "freezing them" — but nothing was done until August 1976, when the board and the Agriculture Ministry informed the State Comptroller that procedures had been approved to enable the board to cancel quotas.

(Yesterday, in reaction to the report, the board stated that the new regulations can only go into effect as of April 1977, but that all the preparations have been made to implement them.)

Government control of the price of eggs — usually as, per capita, the biggest egg consumers in the world — has meant paying subsidies to producers. Overproduction, under this system, means a great deal of money paid out for un-

Poultry Board

wanted eggs. Efforts to export a
eggs have proved useless, since this
neant losing money.

In 1921 there was a surplus of
100 million eggs, which cost the
board \$113.8 million (in 1921
prices). The board then fixed charges
at 1,100 producers, netting
\$50,000 in fines and levies. But
only 25 per cent of the charges
were dropped by board employees

State Comptroller's Report

in their own authority. In some
cases, employees of the board asked
the fines committee to grant ap-
peals by the producers; in still
others yet, a board employee in-
structed its bookkeepers not to
charge the fines to the producers.

Surplus eggs are stored in refrig-
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Production

1 scored

The price of fresh eggs.

1972, the board paid the largest contractor (presumably, Tunt-T) \$280,000 for 5.6 million eggs which it had stored without authorization. The contractor billed the board for storage charges 10 per cent higher than the board when it does its own storage. The contractor stored the eggs in numbers of 4,500 eggs, instead of the usual containers of 360 eggs — which caused them to deteriorate rapidly. At the end, most of the eggs were spoiled, and the board marketed some of them for a total of \$1415,000 — thus losing \$5,000.

1975, the board sent surplus abroad to be turned into fertilizer. The total cost was \$144m., \$72,000 a ton of egg powder, the same powder bought in Europe cost only \$1,500 per ton. In regard to frozen poultry, the records of the bookkeeping department on quantities: entering freezing plants do not match figures on amounts sold from frozen stocks. Turkey, market-

ed on the basis of bids from the licensed merchants, have been sold at prices that have nothing to do with the supply and demand, but were based on arbitrary reserve prices set by someone in the board. The tenders and bids were handled so haphazardly, that dealers could call in their bid by telephone to the board's telephone operators — after getting information about the reserve price.

The board, according to its own statement, has accepted most of the criticisms expressed by the State Comptroller, and has taken — or is taking — steps to correct the shortcomings. It remains to be seen whether the board's 50 members (eight of whom are Government representatives) will move more often than the others, and when times get tight in 1971-75, whether the Government representatives will show up at board meetings, or those of its executive (to date their presence has been rare); and whether the board will succeed any better in its tasks of regulating egg and poultry production than it has to date.

Eggs and poultry constitute the largest agriculture branch in the country, with a value of 11.2 billion in 1974/75, or 23 per cent of all agricultural products. There are 13,000 growers in more than 700 settlements engaged in this branch.

TEL AVIV. The possibility that early local elections may be called has caught most of the country's mayors "entirely unprepared." The mayor of one large city told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

While the central bodies of many parties are already in high gear for the Knesset elections, their local branches are in a state of flux. In many cities the incumbents have not yet decided whether to seek re-election, residents' qualifications for running may have to be altered in a short period of time, and, above all, there are a host of technical problems arising from the fact that for the first time the electorate will select mayors and local council heads on a personal basis.

At that clear, for example, whether the name of the candidate for mayor should head the city council list as well. There is also the problem that voters will have to cast two ballots in the local elections, alone — one for mayor and one for the city council — and it is not yet known who will be able to tell them any way. Ways will have to be devised to differentiate between the two.

While most municipal politicians are passively awaiting a Knesset decision on whether the local elections will be held together with the national elections, sentiment in the corridors of the Knesset is mixed. Authorities is almost overwhelmingly against early elections.

Apart from practical considerations of unpreparedness, issues of principle are also involved. Many mayors argue that to compel them to go to the polls sooner would be adding insult to injury, given the almost certain fact that the elections between local and central government.

According to the mayors, the cities are relegated a back seat, are steadily losing their vestiges of independence, and are rarely consulted even on matters directly involving them. Most mayors see this as an excellent opportunity to draw a clear distinction, once and for all, between the country's internal problems and its foreign policy.

TEL AVIV's Mayor Shlomo Lahat, on the other hand, argues that the date for local elections "involves no questions of principle at all. If it turns out that scheduling national and municipal elections on the same day saves the country money, then I am all in favour of that." He feels that there is "plenty of time" for the next spring for the party branches to be organised.

Many labour incumbents, however, admit off the record that they fear that they will find themselves having to defend and possibly even pay for the Government's shortcomings.

In cities where the Labour is in the opposition, there is also a reluctance to have early local elections, since in most municipalities the Alignment finds itself without candidates. If the Knesset and local council elections are called simultaneously, prominent public figures and potential vote-getters will be attracted to vie for the more glittering prizes of national politics or will be enlisted to bail out the party which might not get top-notch names.

At the same time, since mayors will be elected on a personal basis and it will no longer be possible to unseat a mayor by coalition deals, it is expected that academicians and businessmen from outside Israel and businessmen from outside Israel will be attracted to municipal politics. Many might run on independent lists. An additional incentive, as far as small localities are concerned, is the recent hike in mayors' pay. The hike may also appear on the local scene since it is the only reason: A good many of the country's mayors have been occupying the same post for years and are simply getting older. The demands of the new style of campaigning that personal elections will necessitate may be too much for some of them. Their replacement will become a highly important factor in their decision on whether to run for re-election.


Early municipal elections are almost certain to be to the advantage of such strong mayors as Lahat and Kollek, both of whom are sparring for power with their respective city councils who will have a greater say in dumping up the list of city council candidates.

(Jerusalem's Teddy Kollek expressed the hope Tuesday that municipal elections next year will be held on a date separate from national elections so that municipal issues can be given a fair airing in the campaign.)

The position of Haifa's Mayor Yerahm Zeisel vis-a-vis his party is far more shaky. Ramat Gan's Mayor Yehoshua Katsidze is in a powerful position in the country's fourth largest city, with hardly any enemies. The dean of Israel's mayors, Holim's Pinhas Syllon, was to have stepped down at the end of his current term of office, but early elections make this doubtful for lack of a suitable replacement. In view of recent hints of scandal and mismanagement in Givatayim it is felt that Mayor Kuba Kreisler will have an uphill fight to get Labour's nomination for yet another term.

(See Editorial page 16)

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Democratic hawks' opposition diminishes

New Pentagon chief mum on B-1

WASHINGTON. — Although the new administration is not scheduled to decide until next June if it will authorize the \$2.2-billion B-1 bomber project, President-elect Jimmy Carter's choice to run the Pentagon expressed support for the proposal as recently as seven months ago.

In a letter to Sen. William Proxmire (Democrat, Wis.) last May 20, Defense Secretary-designate Harold Brown said the B-1 was a complex issue, but supporters of the plane "have the best of the argument in terms of accuracy, clarity of assumptions and defensibility of conclusions."

Brown's letter to Proxmire indicated he had changed his position very little in the decade since he advocated development of a new manned bomber during his tenure as Air Force Secretary in the administration of the late former President Lyndon B. Johnson.

As Air Force Secretary from 1965 through 1968, Brown said the U.S. needed an aircraft to replace the aging B-52s. That proposal, then known as the advanced manned strategic aircraft, has evolved into the B-1.

At a news conference on Tuesday in Plains, after Carter named the California Institute of Technology president to be his Defense Secretary, Brown said it would be premature for him to reveal his recommendation on the B-1, though he said he had discussed the matter with Carter.

Early in his campaign for the presidency, Carter was critical of the B-1 and implied that he would cancel the project. But he later modified that position and said recently he had reached no conclusions on the supersonic bomber.

The Ford administration earlier this month approved a start on production of the aircraft on an \$87m a month contract that expires on June 30. Before that date, Carter and his new Pentagon team must decide if they want to go ahead with construction of the 244 planes the Air Force wants to buy.



President-elect Jimmy Carter Tuesday named Patricia Roberts Harris, left, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Harold Brown Secretary of Defense in his new cabinet. (UPI telephoto)

at a currently estimated cost of \$938m, each.

Much of the opposition to Brown, which apparently held up announcement of his appointment for several days, is believed to be dissipating.

A spokesman for Sen. Henry Jackson (Democrat, Wash.) said Jackson never actively opposed Brown. The spokesman discounted published reports which had said

First Jew in new Cabinet

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. — Harold Brown, who was named the next Defense Secretary on Tuesday by President-elect Jimmy Carter, becomes the first Jew to win a Cabinet-level appointment in the new administration.

Michael Blumenthal, named last week to become Treasury Secretary, and James Schlesinger, who is expected to be named later this week to a new Cabinet-level position as energy czar, were both born Jewish but later converted to Christianity.



President-elect Jimmy Carter Tuesday named Patricia Roberts Harris, left, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Harold Brown Secretary of Defense in his new cabinet. (UPI telephoto)

Jackson considered Brown to be too ready to strike a bargain with the Soviet Union.

A source at the AFL-CIO said the labor federation also was prepared to accept Brown.

Carter asked for our best recommendation and that was (former Defense Secretary) James Schlesinger, the source said. "We thought Brown was a good technocrat. We thought Schlesinger was a better policy man." But the source added, "Anybody who thinks Brown is a dove hasn't looked at his record as air force secretary."

Asked to respond to press allegations that he had urged expanded bombing of North Vietnam during the government-wide policy review that followed the Tet offensive of March, 1968, Brown replied that he had, in fact, disagreed with his air staff on bombing strategy.

Referring to a March, 1968, memo which is quoted in part in the Pentagon Papers, Brown told the news conference in Plains that he had transmitted three staff proposals for continued bombing, but noted in a cover letter that he "disagreed both on the expected effectiveness and desirability of such of these alternatives."

Carter A-G criticized on rights record

PLAINS. — The first serious controversy about an appointment by President-elect Jimmy Carter has erupted over the civil rights record of Griffin Bell, the federal judge Carter has named as his attorney general.

Despite frequent declarations of faith in Bell's record, Carter has been unable to still critics of Bell's judicial opinions on racial integration cases and on his membership in private clubs that exclude Blacks and Jews.

Black leaders, including some influential Black members of Congress, have criticized Bell's record on housing cases, and other school integration rulings while he sat on the federal bench.

Yesterday, the Black Panther Anti-Discrimination League said that it was "most troubled" to learn that Bell is a member of the Piedmont Driving Club and the Capital City Club, both of which do not accept Jews or Blacks as members in Atlanta. Through a spokesman, Bell acknowledged that he belonged to the clubs, which he said accepted Blacks and Jews to use the club facilities as guests of members.

Bell told the "New York Times" yesterday that because as attorney general he would be committed to equal justice under the law, he would have to do something about his membership in the private clubs. Bell is expected to face an intense grilling on his record at his confirmation hearings before members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, some of whom say they support Bell and some who say they are reserving judgement.

Rhodesia seeks 'peace talks' with Botswana

SALISBURY. — Rhodesia is reportedly seeking "peace talks" with neighbouring Botswana — a country without an army — which is being drawn into the expanding war between Rhodesia and Black Nationalist guerrillas.

During the past month, there has been an increase in incidents along the 700-km. long border between the two countries since Rhodesia opened a new operation against guerrillas in the southwestern part of the country.

Botswana, with a police force of 500 men, is protesting that Rhodesian security forces are violating its territorial integrity.

Rhodesia's white-ruled government denied on Monday a report that Rhodesian troops clashed on the border with Botswana police last Saturday. The denial also followed charges from Botswana that Rhodesian troops had fired on a police camp in the northern Botswana town

of Francistown, close to the Rhodesian border.

A Rhodesian government statement on Tuesday referred to its western neighbour as being a base for guerrilla offensives. But it emphasized that despite increasing anxiety about the use of Botswana as a staging area, Rhodesian security forces had taken great pains to avoid violating the former British protectorate's territory.

The statement from Foreign Affairs Minister Peter van der Byl's department, said it was increasingly important to reduce tensions so as to prevent a confrontation, and offered to begin talks on the deteriorating situation.

Meanwhile, Black Rhodesian Nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo has called for an international probe into Sunday's massacre of 27 black tea plantation workers in eastern Rhodesia near the Mozambique border. Survivors of the slaying have said the killers were black guerrillas armed with Communist-type weapons, but Nkomo, leader of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), claimed they were "mercenaries seeking to justify their employment" — an apparent reference to foreign recruits in the armed forces.

U.S. payments gap increases

WASHINGTON. — A key yardstick of America's international payments position registered the biggest deficit in two years for the full quarter, the U.S. Government announced yesterday.

The Commerce Department said the U.S. current account showed a deficit of \$1.06b. for the three-month period ended in September. That compared to a surplus of \$816m. in the previous quarter and was the biggest deficit since the \$1.45b. in the third quarter of 1974.

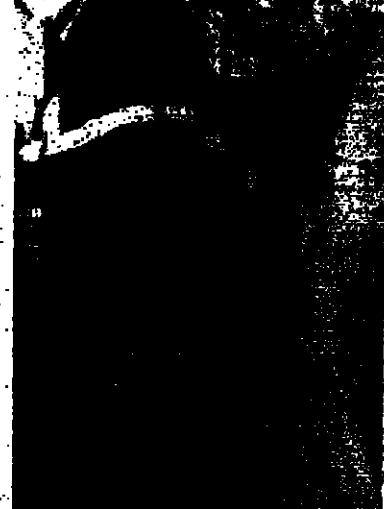
Oil journal anticipates 'free-for-all' in Opec

NICOSIA, Cyprus. — The oil cartel's pricing dispute has deeply split its membership and created a "free-for-all" crude market, the "Middle East Economic Survey" reported yesterday.

"In other words, this promises to be a bruising trial of strength in which injuries will be sustained before an Opec-wide reconciliation can be effected," the journal said.

The weekly newsletter was commenting on a decision last week by 11 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to raise prices by 15 per cent in two stages next year.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, the other members of the 13-nation cartel, refused to go along and held to a 5 per cent rise. They threatened to flood the market with



ON THE REBOUND — Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who has also paid another month in office, got a major business job offer on Monday. He was named to an honorary member of the team. Kissinger, wearing his jersey, was seen during the team's training session. Kissinger demonstrates his bounding technique to "Trotter" Ed Lawrence and Larry Rivers. (AP radiophoto)

'Remarkable evolution' on attitude to Israel, PLO spokesman claims

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — A representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization last month told a closed-door meeting of the prestigious Council on Foreign Relations in New York that the Middle East was currently witnessing "an historic turning point that should be seized."

Dr. Issa Sartawi, the PLO official, also maintained that the PLO attitude on peace and on Israel had "evolved remarkably" since 1967, from total rejection through the idea of a unitary secular state of Palestine to cognizance of the fact of Israel's existence and the desirability of peace based on two separate state structures.

Hijacker surrenders after slashing one hostage

SAN FRANCISCO. — A disgruntled airline mechanic surrendered early yesterday morning after holding two persons hostage aboard a commandeered DC8 jetliner for almost 15 hours, authorities said.

Palm J. Hinnant, 37, was quietly removed from the plane and taken into custody by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

One of the hostages, Richard Funk, was rushed to Peninsula Hospital. The 38-year-old United Airlines shop manager earlier told authorities over the airplane radio that Hinnant had slashed him several times after forcing the two

hostages to board the empty airliner.

The other hostage, United Airlines mechanic Jerry Dusenberry, 42, had been released unharmed about an hour earlier when two of Hinnant's friends boarded the aircraft. The two friends, Lincoln Jones and Clarence Hamlet, also left the plane and police swarmed aboard to check it.

The drama began when Hinnant forced his captives aboard the empty aircraft at gunpoint, according to officials and began issuing a series of demands, including fuel, food, clothing, brandy, and the flight crew.

Sartawi said that the PLO officials "know that the reality of the situation requires a peace between separate Arab and Jewish nations in Palestine."

(The Council on Foreign Relations is a prestigious body of professors and foreign policy experts in the U.S. Defense Minister Shimon Peres addressed the group on his recent visit to the U.S., and he met there with Secretary of State-designate Cyrus Vance, who is a member.)

He argued that PLO officials were willing to talk to Israel. "The obstacles are on the Israeli side. Witness the outcry in Israel against the Israeli doves who talked to us in Paris," he said, referring to a recent meeting between PLO representatives and a small delegation of Israeli left-wing politicians, journalists and academics.

"The U.S. government can play a constructive role in bringing Israel and the PLO together," the memorandum had Sartawi saying. "We need a push from the outside." But the Geneva Middle East peace conference did not appear to be the ideal place to work out a peace. Preliminary diplomatic work is necessary, including talks between the U.S. and the USSR.

The memorandum also quoted Sartawi as making these points:

- The PLO speaks for 80 per cent of the Palestinians. George Habash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the other rejectionists do not count. "We could crush them in 45 minutes. As we crushed (the Syrian-backed) Sa'eda," in Lebanon, he boasted.

- The PLO cannot accept Resolution 242 as a basis for peace because it does not recognize the Palestinians as a people, but as refugees.
- The Allon plan is totally unacceptable. But agreement on borders, with balancing mutual concessions should be possible. Despite the tremendous difficulties of the Jerusalem problem a settlement there too should not be impossible. "Two nations can have their capital there," he said.

the New Jersey State Supreme Court ordered a retrial of the two men on the grounds that the prosecution withheld evidence that could have helped the defence in their first trial.

But after a six-week hearing with 75 witnesses, a jury found Carter and Artie Guzman guilty of the three murders in Paterson in 1966. The jury deliberated over nine hours before returning the verdict.

After a massive public campaign,

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Mammoth oil spill perils Cape Cod beach, fisheries

NANTUCKET, Massachusetts. — Heavy winter seas yesterday threatened U.S. Coast Guard efforts to sink the front half of an oil tanker that broke apart, unleashing one of history's worst oil spills.

Officials watched helplessly the spreading of the oil slick. One report said some of it had reached north-eastward to the Georges Bank commercial fishing grounds of Newfoundland.

The break-up Tuesday of the 640-foot tanker Argo Merchant spewed 75 per cent of its 7.5m. gallons of heavy industrial crude oil into a slick 75 miles long and more than 25 miles wide at its broadest point.

"This is the biggest oil spill disaster on the American coast in our history," said Russell Train, head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The aged, rusting vessel, called a "suspect ship" by the Coast Guard because of 19 previous mishaps, piled onto the Middle Rip Shoals 40 kms. south-east of this island resort a week ago. It was 15 kms. off course when it hit.

The Liberian-registered vessel was on its way from Venezuela to Salem, Massachusetts. An investigation showed the ship's master wasn't using all the navigating equipment available to him, and that the ship wasn't kept in repair.

Marxists lead in Mauritius vote

PORT LOUIS, Mauritius. — A new Marxist Party triumphed yesterday in the first general elections held in Mauritius since the Indian Ocean Island won independence from Britain in 1968.

With 59 of the 62 parliamentary seats declared, the Mauritius Militant Movement (MMM) had outdistanced all other parties with 29 seats — only three short of an

Waldheim likely to visit M.E. late next month

UNITED NATIONS. — UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim will probably visit the Middle East on a peace mission towards the end of January, according to the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, William Scranton.

Waldheim recently received an invitation to visit Egypt as part of consultations aimed at restoring the 1973 Middle East peace conference in Geneva.

A UN spokesman on Tuesday night said no date had yet been set for such a trip. But Scranton said at a press conference that "it's my understanding that he (Waldheim) plans to take this trip... probably toward the end of January some time."

Waldheim has already held preliminary talks with representatives of all the parties to the Middle East dispute, including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), as

Manila reaches accord with Moslem rebels

MANILA. — President Ferdinand Marcos yesterday said a nine-point agreement has been reached with leaders of the Moslem secessionist movement to end the rebellion in the southern Philippines.

Marcos said the agreement was reached during negotiations in Tripoli with leaders of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). He said the negotiations were aided by the active participation of Libyan President Gaddafi. The central committee of MNLF has based itself in Tripoli.

The President, however, did not disclose the details of the agreement but said he was "confident we succeed in ending the Mindanao problem."

Moslem separatists in the past have demanded the independence of the large southern islands of Mindanao, Palawan and the Sulu Archipelago from the predominantly Roman Catholic republic of the Philippines.

An estimated 5,000 persons have died in the southern Philippines during the four years of the armed rebellion.

Bayern beats Brazilians for cup

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil. — Bayern Munich of West Germany won the Intercontinental Club Soccer Cup here Tuesday night by holding Cruzeiro of Brazil to a goalless draw in the second leg of the final.

Bayern, holders of the European Champions Cup, had a 2-0 lead over the South American champions from last month's first leg in Munich.

The Brazilians, led in attack by world cup star Pelé, showed no sign of breaking down a resolute Bayern defence in which goalkeepers Sepp Maier was outstanding.

A crowd of 114,000 watched the match. (Bayern is due in Israel next month to play a friendly match against Tel Aviv Maccabi.) (Reuters)

England tops India in cricket test

NEW DELHI. — The formality of an "second innings" England defeat in the first cricket Test by England was completed in 30 minutes play yesterday when India crashed to 234 all out in their

and 234.



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Ugandan officer confirms Bloch killing details Capital crime to joke about Entebbe

By DAVID LAMB
The Los Angeles Times

ENTEBBE. — Reports that Dora Bloch, the 75-year-old hostage who disappeared during the Israeli raid on Entebbe Airport, was snatched from her hospital room and strangled by Ugandan secret police, were confirmed by a highly placed military officer here Tuesday.

Her body then was taken to Namanve Forest, a common dumping ground for victims of official brutality, splashed with gasoline and burned beyond recognition. In the ensuing months at least 20 Ugandans with knowledge of her death have been executed, including the Information Ministry's chief photographer, the source said.

His report confirmed what had been common knowledge in Uganda for some time—that Mrs. Bloch, who held both British and Israeli passports, was killed as a final act of revenge against Israel by the regime of President-for-life Idi Amin. The report, however, provided the first complete details of her death and of the presidential decrees following the raid.

Since the July 4 raid, Amin has made it a capital offence to joke about or possess literature on the attack. At least two bar girls are known to have been killed after joking that their boyfriends were as aggressive as Israeli jets. All foreign publications, such as weekly news-magazines, are confiscated from travellers passing through customs at Entebbe, and anyone mentioning the name of Dora Bloch is subject to immediate imprisonment.

Amin himself was so embarrassed by the raid that he virtually dropped out of sight for more than two

months. He forbade his officers to wear any Israeli military medals although he still wears his Israeli passport which he carried on the occasions since then that he has travelled about Entebbe or Kampala. It is only with a platoon of heavily armed commandos.

The military source, whose identity cannot be revealed for his own safety, said it was not known if Amin personally approved of the slaying. The source's story of Mrs. Bloch's death and of the photographer's execution were confirmed by two other reliable Ugandans.

Mrs. Bloch, a passenger on the Air France jetliner hijacked June 27 to Entebbe, was rushed to Mulago Hospital at 5:30 p.m. July 2 after choking on some food. Early on the morning of July 4, a British diplomat, Peter Chaudry, looked on her. She was sleeping comfortably and a nurse said it was presumed she soon would regain the other 100 or so hostages. The hospital staff did not know at the time that the raid already had taken place.

Although a Ugandan military board of inquiry into the raid denied any complicity in her death, the source said Mrs. Bloch was gagged and taken from her room that afternoon by three plainclothes members of the secret police. She was strangled en route to Namanve Forest, 13 kms. east of Kampala.

Several months later, on November 3, Jimmy Farmer, 45, chief photographer of the Ministry of Information, received a tip from a military source that Mrs. Bloch's body was in the forest. He rushed out and took photographs. But the same acquaintance who

tipped Farmer also alerted military intelligence officers that the photographer was at the gravesite. The officers arrived and demanded the equivalent of \$7,500 to remain silent. He said he would pay when he could raise the money.

Farmer, who had been suspected by Ugandan authorities of supplying Western news organizations with tips and photographs, returned to Kampala in his car. The film was confiscated — it was later destroyed, the source said — and three soldiers in civilian attire forced him into the trunk of his car. He, too, was strangled. His body was dumped near that of Mrs. Bloch.

The Israel Back Society

INTERNATIONAL BACK DAYS
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Saturday, December 25, 8:30 p.m.
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Sunday, December 26, 8:30 p.m.
A ROYAL CONCERT at the COURT of
FREDERICK THE GREAT
KING FREDERICK OF PRUSSIA
Sinfonia
J.S. BACH: Violin Concerto in E Major
DUKE JOHANN ERNST OF WEIMAR
(Bach); Mendelssohn — soprano, Luis Garb — tenor
JOHANN STAMITZ: Sinfonia (Vera Waldman — violin)
Saturday, January 1, 1977, 8:30 p.m.
WINTER CONCERT
BACH, HANDEL, VIVALDI
INTERNATIONAL
EVANG. CHURCH
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THE FIFTH PAGE

VIEW FROM THE NORTH / Ya'acov Ardon

Paying your dues — rates and taxes

IT COULD have been in any of Israel's 22 towns. But it happened to be a professional man in Haifa — for reasons which he himself cannot explain. In a random talk, a catalogue of the taxes, rates, premiums and charges which he pays to the state, the municipality and other bodies. The list may not be complete and is not in any kind of order.

He pays income tax, value added tax (VAT), employers' tax, employers' loan, national insurance for himself, property tax for the home in which he and his family (two children) live and which he owns. He also pays property tax for his office, business tax, commercial sign tax and a courtyard cleaning charge — these to the municipality. To that body he also pays rates.

As an able-bodied citizen he serves in the Army reserve, usually 42 days a year. During that time his office earns almost no income but expenses continue. "What I lose during these weeks, I must make up during the other ten and a half months to cover my office and living expenses. But VAT, at eight per cent on gross income, means the equivalent of another month's work for eight per cent gross of a year means thirty days."

This man is also a member of the Histadrut and of Kupat Holim and pays membership dues for himself and his family. As an employer of two persons in his office he pays dues to the Histadrut for them and to the National Insurance Institute (N.S.I.). For his professional needs, he uses a motorcar (which, he says, he also uses for his family on weekends). "For that car he pays three kinds of dues during the year: for the renewal of his driving licence, vehicle licence and insurance. He pays, of course, for telephone, electricity and water at home and at his office. For both he also pays annual insurance against fire, burglary etc. "These are not compulsory in the legal sense, like taxes. But they are an inevitable part of the linkage system. The same goes for the radio and TV licences."

As a professional of good standing he is also a dues-paying member of his professional association.

Our informant is a father of two children. He pays certain taxes kindergarten and school. But as an honest man he points out that for his two children he receives from the Government a monthly grant of IL270. "On the one hand I feel I am overtaxed. On the other hand I get this grant like a welfare family, a handout I don't want. Some of the taxes and rates I have had doubled and tripled in the past two years. Each department or agency, national or local, thinks for itself and charges me independently of another. I am the only common factor, their target."

The hard work of the Ben Shimon tax reform committee has been entirely nullified. It was meant to reduce the citizen's motive for working harder. Now I work much harder just to pay the increasing taxes and rates, and I know most self-employed professionals are in the same situation. The invisible, but cumulative

effect is on our health, physical and mental, and soon the life insurance company — which I forgot to list — will put up the premium for us."

Of these taxes, rates and other dues the citizen is informed from time to time by notices produced by computers. These computers are almost human and make mistakes. The difference between them and us is that when we are confronted with the truth, we protest. Computers persist.

A family in Naveh Sha'anani lost a teen-age son in a fatal accident. The computer of the Interior Ministry is not an speaking terms with that of the Defence Ministry. One day the bereaved family received a notice from the Defence Ministry ordering the son to present himself for a medical examination, about a year before his call-up. A friend wrote to the Ministry to explain that the boy had died. To no avail. The computer persisted, and the family received another call-up notice some time later. Perhaps such cases are rare. But they are cruel enough to warrant some thought as to how they can be avoided by a dialogue between the computers.

There is one instance where the Ministry of Interior computer does talk to that of the National Insurance Institute. When a person in receipt of a monthly pension from the N.S.I. dies, the N.S.I. is informed at once so that it can discontinue these payments. But the death notice does not seem to go to any authority which claims monthly payments from the deceased.

A soldier with a bad driving record in the army is released to civilian life after his military service. But the record is withheld from the civilian traffic police. There he can start a potentially murderous driving career anew. Do we not assert that ours is a citizens' army?

It is depressing enough that computers are allowed to operate, or are forbidden to communicate, with so little regard for human feelings, or sometimes even human life. But an ineluctable measure of inefficiency and waste result from the fragmentation of state and local authority functions. In a recent Knesset debate it was suggested that some information was secret, or at least confidential, and should not be available to every Government official who asks for it. It would be tantamount to publishing it, the Knesset was told.

That may be true. But computers can cope with greater complications than that and can be made to shut their clattering mouths where the secret information begins if they are programmed for it. Today all the two dozen or so taxes and rates, national and local, are assessed, administered, collected by separate staffs. They add up to tens of thousands of people whom we all, including our informant, must pay.

No wonder we are so highly taxed, and no wonder so many, including our informant, are in financial straits. It is a form of financial emigration of people who are still residents of Israel. Perhaps the next Government will bring us a bold reformer who will both improve the quality of life and save millions by arranging a coalition between the computers. A single computer would be best.



An audience of 150 Arab and Jewish children and their families were enthralled by a performance by the Gypsy Theatre Group at the Tzavta Club in Jerusalem last Sunday. The troupe will perform again at 12:30 p.m. tomorrow, December 24, at the club at 38 King George Avenue. (Barbara Gindoff)

THE PUBLICIST is writing, pressed to meet his deadline. He is typing, in the family living room. Also present are his wife, absentmindedly viewing the late TV news, and children playing.

PUBLICIST: (talks to himself as he types). The public believes... no, public thinks... (shouts) Turn down that TV, and gag those kids — (sighs) must have my own place. **WIFE:** Remember? It was you who didn't want to split up this huge room so we could enjoy having all those important people round.

PUBLICIST: Oh, never mind... It's high time the Government... no, the thirteenth hour strikes...

(Through no visible cause, the voice of the TV news announcer is suddenly louder)

TV... on differences of nuance among senior Cabinet Ministers. A source denied that Mr. Peres had said "we might very well ignore the UN" but in fact had said "we could ignore the U.S." Our correspondent also learns that Mr. Rabin had not stated "who needs the UN" but was referring to the U.K. Other Ministers...

PUBLICIST: (typing in a frenzy) Turn it down, damn it...

WIFE: Haim, explain to me, why does Rabin...

PUBLICIST: (quoting) "How can I think... where was I... The public has the right to ask, and it deserves an answer..."

WIFE: You never tell me anything. Why should Peres...

PUBLICIST: (ignores her) ... but the public has the right to ask, and it deserves an answer...

WIFE: I'm switching it over, who's interested?

PUBLICIST: Leave it be... confrontation between diametrically opposed conceptions, at the highest levels, is followed closely by that uninvited guest, the public at large. It strikes at the very...

Finger on the public pulse

By SHALOM COHEN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TV (erupts again)... but Mr. Raphael told the Cabinet the reference most definitely could not have been to the U.A.R., since it was non-existent. N.E.P. watchers saw this as a straw in the wind for a new coalition crisis. One observer said there'll soon be enough straws to build a hay-stack...

WIFE: Haim, What's the U.A.R. got to do with the coalition, and who cares, anyway?

PUBLICIST: What? Yes. The indifference and apathy felt by the masses is a damning indictment of present policies... recent policies. No, (glances at wristwatch, and looks at wife). Did you say something?

WIFE: I asked — **PUBLICIST:** Okay, never mind. The monumental failure of our husband, to satisfy the fundamental need to know...

WIFE: I'm switching over. The suspense is killing, they did say, they didn't say...

PUBLICIST: Leave off. I'm nearly finished. Equivocation will get the Government nowhere. Were the Government to put its ear to the ground it would hear, not a whisper but a roar, of the public's disquiet and confusion. Such a down-to-earth posture might look undignified, but the sacrifice would be worthwhile.

WIFE: Haim. What you writing about?

PUBLICIST: Nothing.

WIFE: You wear yourself out always deciding about the borders. Why don't you —

PUBLICIST: (shouts) This is not about borders. Stop that kid right now. Impossible to think here. **WIFE:** So what's it about. You never let me help, (sighs), and sinks deeper in easy chair).

PUBLICIST: Make coffee, and get those monsters to bed. Damn it, I've lost the thread... aha. It's a choice between alienation and participation, between Government, however moribund, and the voluntary spirit of this great public, waiting to be tapped...

WIFE: (loud yawn) Enough is too much, it's me and the kids for the sack.

PUBLICIST: ...no surprise then that the public is fed up... (stops typing, notices that it's suddenly quiet, and that he's alone in the room. Sighs, looks into space, and resumes). Wise counsels fall silent, and the remaining vestige of the public goodwill has been frittered away by a Government forever on the horns of a dilemma of its own making... Dancing? Dancing? Doesn't click. Damn... An eloquent accusing silence bodes... hodes what? That blockage again. Damnation. (suddenly turns towards the open door of the empty room, and shouts) Zeldi!! Did you say something?

Jew of Toldedo

By Greville Janner Q.C. M.P.

TOLEDO. — Abe Zuckerman, proprietor of the Sinai Restaurant here, maintains that he is the first Jew to live in this city since 1492. A Frenchman who is now an American citizen, he once ran the only kosher restaurant in Madrid, but now serves seafood and other doubtful delicacies to tourists who visit the ancient synagogues, the Jewish Museum and the house of Samuel Levi (later allegedly occupied by El Greco) which face his spotless establishment.

Until the Inquisition, Toledo boasted a proud, cultured and wealthy Jewish community. Maimonides himself prayed under the ornate arches of the synagogue that later became the Church of Santa Maria. To this day, Jewish names and traditions abound. "I have a friend," said Zuckerman, "who is a regular church-goer. Every Friday evening he lights candles in his home. And neither he nor any member of his family eats pork or meat. When I asked him to explain the candles and why they don't eat pig meat, he replied: 'Family tradition.'"

Samuel Levi was the financial genius who advised King Peter the Cruel. He lived in the palatial house which was possibly occupied by El Greco and is now full of the great artist's marvellous paintings and relics. When the attendant there discovered that we were interested in Jewish matters, he produced an Israeli coin and a keyring with a Hebrew inscription. "Given to me by Israeli visitors," he said.

Sam Toledano is one of today's leaders of the Madrid Jewish community. "Some people have changed their names and many do not recognise the synagogue. But today others are becoming proud of their ancestry."

Everyone knows that Zuckerman is Jewish but he feels no anti-Semitism. The mayor and other city leaders are his friends.

All over Toledo there are signs in Hebrew pointing to the "Beth Knesseth." The shops are full of souvenirs bearing a Magen David, hammered onto earrings and pendants, cuff links and the backs of metal tortoiseshells, in gold and silver leaf. There are books of photographs of the synagogues in three languages and entitled, "The Jews of Toledo."

The decorated arches of the synagogue which became the church of Santa Maria appear on the cover of the Government Tourist Office Toledo booklet. The other disused house of prayer is a simple hall with tapestried walls and Hebrew lettering in a band at ceiling level. The Aron Ha-Kodesh must have been in the pillared recess at the eastern end.

The museum alongside (opened in 1971) contains a gravestone, ceremonial objects — and what is surely the most curious map of the Diaspora anywhere in the world. There are, for example, only two communities shown in Britain — London and Birmingham. And while Central and Southern Africa are scattered with "Jewish" settlements, there are none whatever shown in Australasia.

Will there one day be a community in Toledo, as there was in the golden past?

Abe Zuckerman shrugged. "Why not?" he said. "As a Jew, I have no problems here. Everyone knows I'm Jewish but I feel no anti-Semitism."



Timi Kedar

DANCE NEWS / Dora Sowden

Media mix

FOUR WOMEN — a dancer, an actress, an artist and a musician — will combine to provide an unusual evening at the Israel Museum on January 1.

Timi Kedar, the Israeli dancer who has just arrived from London, has devised a programme in which her dances have been inspired by the other media — music, poetry and art. Together with Sharon Tel Oren (dancer), Miriam Bat Josef (artist) and Tamar Yerushalmi (actress and poetry reader) she will perform a series of dances that interpret the spoken word, the played music, the stage objects and the photographic slides of art creations.

She will begin with Japanese dance (in which she is a Kabuki graduate expert) to Zen (Haiku) poetry read by Tamar Yerushalmi, with flute accompaniment by Sharon Tel Oren in the spirit of "No" theatre.

Israeli contemporary poets will include Hedva Harechavi, Alex Eliraz, Malachi Zeit Arye and the late Leah Goldberg. To these Timi Kedar will dance her own choreography.

The final section will be introduced by Bach music and will be accompanied by readings from the Bible.

The programme, which Timi Kedar will perform in London early next year, will be presented for the first time in Israel.

London visitor

SIOBHAN DAVIES, dancer-teacher from the London Contemporary Dance School and Company, is on a three-day visit to Beer-Sheva. During her stay she is giving classes at the Levin Community Centre and will conclude with a refresher class for teachers.

Modern dance classes have been held by the Centre for the past two years, directed by Madeline Bergman, an immigrant from the U.S. The classes, which are independent of the Bat-Dor studio in the city, have 80 pupils "and a healthy waiting list", according to Clive Burton, the centre's director.

PETS CORNER / Israel Even Chen

Caged birds

THE MOST POPULAR of the caged birds kept as pets are the Budgerigar ("Budgie") and the Canary. The Budgie is also known as the Parakeet.

The canary is a fine pet. His song provides pleasure to many. The budgie is more of an attention-seeker. Both can and should be hand-tamed. The budgie is easier to handle, enjoys playing games, and doing tricks. Both types of birds are available in a variety of colours.

Both birds have the same basic requirements. A suitable cage for a single bird should be 40x40x20cm. Fresh food and water must be available at all times, including treat-type foods. Commercial food mixtures are on sale in most pet stores but care should be taken that they are fed only to the type of bird that they are meant for. Only the experts can make up feed mixtures into a properly balanced diet. Both budgies and canaries require well washed fresh hard-boiled egg yolk and a bit of fruit as an occasional treat.

The cage should be kept out of direct sunlight, or provided with a shade. Birds of all kinds must be protected from draughts. Both budgies and canaries can withstand surprisingly low temperatures if not exposed to wind. Constantly fluctuating temperatures are dangerous and can make the bird quite ill.

While both budgies and canaries enjoy bathing, an occasional bird will refuse to use a bath, and require a dripping tap, or a saucer with just enough lukewarm water to cover the bird's toes when it is standing in it makes an ideal bird-bath. There are many types of commercial bird-baths to hang on the cage door. This type helps to keep the cage floor dry. Damp cage floors can cause illness and even death.

The cage should be cleaned regularly. At least once every other day, the floor should be lined with travel paper, or a light grade of sand paper, with a handful of loose, fine gravel spread on it. Sand, which is essential to your pet's digestive system, taking the place of teeth, in a crop. If a newspaper floor-liner is used, double the amount of gravel on the floor, and change daily. The perches used in the cage should never be washed, but ped clean with a knife. If you obtain gravel-covered tubes to the perches, these are best and to keep the bird's toenails down. If a better if a female canary is bred once a year, and thus their own upkeep.



Making friends with a canary. (W. Braun)

Both male and female budgies are equally trainable and affectionate. If you have not enough time to devote to your budgie, keep a pair. They will keep themselves and you happily entertained for many hours.

Budgies also enjoy a variety of toys — ladders, mirrors, little wagons, and the like. Their play will provide amusement and fun to your pet, and yourself.

Reply on rabies

IN REPLY to the letter from Dr. Shimshony (Dec. 19) criticising remarks in this column on the subject of rabies, I must make the following observations:

I have stated that the fear of this disease is far greater than its actual incidence warranted. In this connection I should like to quote Dr. A. Arnan of the Health Ministry who said: "A rabid dog biting a few people is not rare. It happens all the time. I've never experienced such a rabid incident." (JP December 9, 1976.)

On the major point of symptomatology, I refer to the 3 veterinarians whom I interviewed. Two had personal experience, one in a laboratory, the other during a rabies epidemic in the state of Rhode Island. They agree that in violent reactions. However, all of the rabid animals spent their last violent (that is, biting) stage attempting to run, and that they invariably ran in one direction only, attacking even inanimate objects in their paths, but not changing direction.

As a final note, I would ask if Dr. Shimshony is familiar with the work of Dr. John A. McLaughlin, who succeeded in invalidating the theory that the presence of Negri bodies in the brain is definitive proof of rabies? And how, I might ask, was the little white dog's disease diagnosed?

SOCCER PREVIEW / Paul Kohn

Derby in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV — With Tel Aviv Maccabi holding an almost unassailable lead of seven points at the top of the National League, soccer supporters' main interest these days is in the race for second place and the struggle to avoid relegation.

The main game of the day this Saturday will be the derby between Tel Aviv Maccabi and Tel Aviv Betar at the Bloomfield Stadium. Maccabi were extremely fortunate to retain their western record during their visit to Jerusalem last week. With the exception of Vicky Peres there were signs of tiredness among the other Maccabi forwards.

Tel Aviv Betar, on the other hand, though only drawing 0:0 with Jerusalem Betar, looked livelier and especially Moshe Romano showed he is as keen as ever.

Yehuda Shababani returned to the Betar line-up after a lengthy absence, and last week's form of these sides suggests Betar will give Maccabi a tough game: a draw must be considered.

Jerusalem fans can also look forward to a keen game with the visit to Katamon of second placed T.A. Hapoel. But Betar fans will be looking for an improvement on last week's performance, and particularly that by their midfield star, Uri Mamillat.

Jerusalem Betar's results inevitably reflect the form of Danny Neuman and Maimon Avrahami is a fast left winger, but otherwise the Jerusalem attack lacks punch. Tel Aviv Hapoel managed only to draw 0:0 at home against Yehud Hapoel, and it would require much improved form by Feigenbaum, Landau, Lieberman and Co. to win anything in Jerusalem.

A more likely candidate for second place in the league by Saturday night are Netanya Maccabi, who return home to play Petah Tikva Maccabi. The diamond city side have won their last two games away from home, an unusual achievement for that previously poor away side, and they should win.

Kfar Sava Hapoel looked an even more ragged 11 than Petah Tikva Maccabi; to whom they lost 1:2. The club management fired itself and

coach Arye Redier a couple of weeks ago, and the players have not settled down since. Haifa Hapoel will be visitors in the Sharon town, and though they lost 2:3 to Shimonah at home last week, have been showing sufficient improvement on their early season form to suggest Leventhal, Engender, Alon and Benish will be good enough to win the points this week.

Another team that is badly off form, and without luck, is Haifa Maccabi. They have missed more penalty spot kicks than any side in the league and have dropped to 14th place. They play at home to the snappy Jaffa Maccabi, who are one of the leading contenders at the top end of the table. Mordechai Haim is a new Jaffa star, and he and Moshe Ozana will have to be closely watched by the Haifa defence. A draw looks a likely result in this game.

Acre Hapoel and Beersheba Hapoel are two other teams who have not had the ball running their way lately. The teams meet in Acre, and though the Negev side looks superior on paper, Acre will not easily be beaten at their ground.

There will be no second division (Liga Aritel) games this Saturday and five league "A" games appear on the Spor Toto football pool coupon.

Only two persons got all 18 games marked correctly last week, and each will be richer by about IL600,000. Twelve results were worth IL400, eleven will win IL250 and lines of ten correct results will get cheques of IL34. Mordechai Haim is a new Jaffa star, and he and Moshe Ozana will have to be closely watched by the Haifa defence. A draw looks a likely result in this game.

Sports Guide:
Acre Hap. v Beersheba Hap.
Haifa Hap. v Jaffa Hap.
Yehud Hap. v Hahana
Jerusalem Betar v Tel Aviv Hap.
Tel Aviv Hap. v Tel Aviv Betar
Shimonah v Jerusalem Hap.
Kfar Sava Hap. v Haifa Hap.
Netanya Hap. v Petah Tikva Hap.
Maccabi Hap. v Beersheba Hap.
Beersheba Hap. v Hahana Hap.
Hahana Hap. v Tel Aviv Hap.
Maccabi Hap. v Hahana Hap.
Tel Aviv Hap. v Hahana Hap.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

AVIV STOCKS

Investments set new highs

The equities market continued its upward movement in the face of unfavourable news as shares continued their upward movement. A number of shares, particularly hard hit in the recent sell-off, were traded yesterday on a "buyers only" basis. (Shares marked "buyers only" are automatically sold by 5 per cent.) Financials generally rose moderately. New shares of General Mortgage issued a good three-point advance. The Tel Aviv stock index rose 1.1 points to 244. The Tel Aviv stock index rose 1.1 points to 244.

Insurance companies had a good day and were led by Sahar, which rose 1.1 points to 410. Development and real estate shares were also in demand. Shares rose five to an even 200. Pri-Ori "buyers only" and the price was pushed at 300 for a 15-point rise. The industrial segment moved higher. Elco IL2.5 gained eight to 300. Elco IL2.5 gained eight to 300.

Most active issues

R. Leumi	288.5 +0.5	IL512.100
IDB (new)	131.5 +0.5	IL456.000
Hapoalim	331 +1.0	IL398.400
Stocks traded:		IL12.5m.
Variables:		IL5.5m.
Bonds traded:		IL15.5m.
Natad:		IL9.75 n.e.
Offer:		\$39,000
Turnover:		\$39,000

23.12.76	21.12.76				
Leumi	288.5	288.5	288.5	288.5	288.5
IDB	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5
Hapoalim	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331

23.12.76	21.12.76				
Leumi	288.5	288.5	288.5	288.5	288.5
IDB	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5
Hapoalim	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331
Bank Leumi	331	331	331	331	331

Hour before closing Wednesday, Dec. 22, 1976

Market active, climbing

The stock market was active and climbing in active trading yesterday. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial, up 5.88 Tuesday, was another six points higher than the previous close. Gainers outnumbered losers about 2 to 1 among New York Stock Exchange-listed issues.

Analysts said some buyers had been attracted by the market's strong showing Tuesday, when the Dow broke out of an 11-point decline over the past three sessions. They noted a favourable economic news background, including low interest rates and a subdued pace of inflation, as reflected in the latest U.S. government figures on consumer prices.

SEA Ltd.	20%	Fair Cam	40%	Monsanto	86%
Mer. T & T	63%	Gen Dynam	52%	Occ Pet	24%
Alcoa	28%	Gen Foods	31%	Pan Am	47%
Rich	58%	Gen Motors	31%	Polard	37%
Gen	17%	Gen Tel	26%	RCA corp.	26%
How	19%	Gen Tire	25%	Royal Dutch	51%
St.	40%	Gillette	27%	Sears Roeb.	67%
ing	45%	Gulf West	17%	Singer	18%
Int. My	64%	Gulf Oil	28%	Sony	9%
Arrangements	88%	Honywell	46%	Sperry Rand	43%
SS Inc.	57%	IBM	27%	Teledyne	67%
Mane	48%	Int. Paper	67%	Teneco	27%
Man	28%	Int. T & T	73%	Texas Ins	97%
Ardayer	19%	John John	72%	TWA	72%
Sea Cola	77%	LTV	11%	Twent Cent	51%
in Rd	19%	Litton	14%	West Union	18%
own Zell	44%	Lockheed	32%	Woodworth	24%
lowman	42%	Macy	23%	Xerox	56%
Spent	138%	Mead-Doug	25%	Zenith	26%
Post ROK	83%	Minn MM	56%		
com	52		62%		

Provided through the courtesy of the Foreign Securities Department Bank Hapoalim, B.M., Tel Aviv. Tel. 251420.

Shofar sound on Hanukka

There it was. The unmistakable sound of the shofar. Tekla, sh'vartim tru's, tekla. It went loudly and clearly just outside the windows of The Jerusalem Post editorial offices. But this was the week of Hanukka, not the period before Shushan, when the shofar is blown. We faded reporters looked at each other in wonder. The sounds went on. The shofar was obviously in the hands of an expert. It was blown hurriedly, in the correct cadences, lovingly almost.

We jested. Who could get the scoop on the coming of the Messiah, who is supposed to be announced by the blowing of the shofar? After all, this was Jerusalem, the holy city, in the land of miracles.

Finally an eager young reporter did the professional thing. She climbed on a chair to look into our backyards through one of the high windows. A big Tempo truck, loaded with crates of N.C. Cola, was inching its way down the incline into the yard. As the driver repeatedly and gently applied his brakes, they produced the authentic-sounding shofar sounds.

Perhaps in Jerusalem there is a touch of holiness even in bolts rubbing against brake drums through worn linings. R.M.

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MOTORING

By MOSHE KOHN

A FEELING of indignation is a bad thing. It makes you paranoid. And, turned paranoid, you start persecuting others.

Egged has become such a paranoid. And along with its paranoia, it has developed a martyr complex. Our ogle of a government, Egged told us in a lead distributed to its passengers about two weeks ago (at no extra charge), is preventing it from continuing to give us the devoted, efficient service it has been accustomed to giving us all through the ages, in sunshine and rain, in wartime as in peacetime. The government won't let it raise fares as it sees fit. The government won't give it a blank cheque every time it demands one. As a result, Egged said, buses are standing idle for lack of spare parts; it cannot pay its fuel bill and the fuel companies are about to stop supplies. So we, the bus-riding public, are asked to demand that the government provide us with a rational public-transport system. A very good suggestion. I so demand.

THERE ARE several possible cures for Egged's paranoia. One, of course, is to "pass a law." But we know what happens to laws when there is nobody to enforce them, such as the Knesset Law against environmental pollution. For a law really to be effective, especially when there is a shortage of law enforcers, a public ethos supporting it must exist.

What we need in this instance, then, is for the Histadrut and the labour council to issue a manifesto declaring that our buses are what is known in the world as a "public utility" or "public service" and not a closed feudal order existing for the convenience and aggrandizement of its own knights. Since Egged is what is known in our Socialized democracy as a "cooperative," it may even be possible to find somewhere in our sacred literature some statement to support a coalition of one of Egged's main purposes is to transport the public in a rational manner.

But perhaps even our Socialized democrats need some grassroots push or inspiration to act. The public can do a number of

The bus-driving buccaneers in our Socialized democracy



things to show that it has not only grassroots but also a trunk and limbs. One thing all of us, even the motorists, can do is walk — when the weather is clement and the distance is within our capacity. This will be a start towards reducing our dependence on Egged, road consumption, air pollution, petrol accidents, and the number of cars contributing to the road-accident statistics and traffic snarls and fierce and needless honking of horns. Doctors say walking is also good for our health.

Another step towards breaking the bus cooperatives' stranglehold on us would be to permit rational shut services where they do not now exist — e.g., Jerusalem — and further rationalizing them where they already exist.

FINALLY, I repeat a proposal I made here at the beginning of our abortive "dry-day" effort in November, 1975, and which the Transport Ministry is now for the second time trying to encourage. This is the drastic proposal that citizens join forces and form car pools.

Drastic — because it entails a measure of good-neighbourliness and economic sense that not all of us are in the habit of exercising, and also because it may require action by the government and/or the insurance companies to cover certain new eventualities.

Motorists living in the same general neighbourhood and working or shopping in the same general vicinity should co-ordinate their car use with each other so that not every car in a particular area is out on the road on every trip that every motorist has to make, and so that every car that is out is carrying a maximal load. Institutions and business that pay car-owning employees "car allowances" or that own cars "attached" to certain employees, might make such car pooling mandatory, thereby saving some money as well as furthering the general aims.

The next part of my proposal may raise certain legal and/or insurance problems. Let people who do not own cars

Car for Prisoner of Zion

LAW REPORT
By DORIS LANKIN

The first part, on Monday, described how a Russian immigrant, a driver since 1965, was not given back his licence after serving a three-and-a-half year prison sentence for Zionist activities. Israel customs denied him tax exemption on the purchase of a car and the Jerusalem District Court turned down his application for a declaratory judgment that he had held a licence in Russia.

He turned to the Supreme Court, which granted his appeal. Justice Sussman went on to say that what ridiculous extremes a rigid literal approach to the law could lead. He pointed out that it could lead to a denial of customs exemptions to a Russian immigrant who had been deprived because of his wish to go to Israel not only of his citizenship but also of all his papers, including his driving licence. Such an act on the part of an Israel administrative authority, he declared, would make it a partner in the Soviet persecution of Jews.

In this particular case, continued Justice Sussman, the appellant had not, it is true, claimed that his driving licence had been cancelled; but he had claimed that his licence had been taken away from him when he was arrested. If his story were indeed true then public good demanded that the appellant be given an opportunity to prove, by producing a licence, that he had been entitled to drive a car in the Soviet Union. For otherwise a prisoner of Zion would be discriminated against not only in Soviet Russia but also — and particularly — in Israel.

The appeal should, therefore, be allowed. Justice Cohn, in concurring with the appeal, should be allowed. Justice Cohn said that, he agreed with the President that the demand for production of a driving licence in the customs regulations was for purely probative purposes. If, on the other hand, the respondent's argument — that even someone who had driven a

car all his life in his country of origin would not be entitled to a tax exemption unless he could produce a valid licence — were correct, then he would go so far as to say, that the customs regulation was invalid for unreasonableness.

What had particularly distressed him in the present case, continued Justice Cohn, was that the competent authority had refused point blank to give the appellant an opportunity of proving that he had held a valid driving licence in Russia, and that furthermore when in despair, he had turned to the courts, the competent authority had seen fit to prevent elucidation of the problem there, too, by asking for the action to be struck out in limine. This made it difficult to avoid the impression that the Israel authorities had made themselves, albeit inadvertently, accessories after the event to that oppression in which the Soviets excel. Nor was it any excuse that there had been hundreds of cases of driving licences in Russia which justified the taking of extreme precautions. For it is the very fact that the authorities demand production of driving licences which has led to the perpetration of the forgeries and this is a clear indication that nothing is to be gained from this demand and that it would perhaps be preferable to demand other proof right from the beginning. And, in any event, he added, the innocent should not be asked to suffer because there are some dishonest people in the world.

He concurred, therefore, that the case should be returned to the District Court, held Justice Cohn, but hoped that for substantive, moral and humane reasons the respondents would have second thoughts and hear the appellant out themselves, as this would be more effective and time-saving than the judicial process. After all, he added, the rights which are given to new immigrants are meant to smooth their absorption and not to make their lives more difficult and embitter them against the authorities.

Justice Ben-Zion concurred with his colleagues. Appeal allowed with IL2,000 costs. Judgment given on November 4, 1976.

Dune buggies at Yamit

By ZVI ARENSTEIN
Special to The Jerusalem Post

What would be the ideal vehicle for getting around a new town built in the middle of desert sand dunes? A dune buggy, of course. Ilan Aronson who came here from Brooklyn in 1963, has had that exact idea.

"I've been out of the country for the last three years working for the Government in Belgium with the Customs Market. I had visited the site Yamit in 1968, after the Six-Day War, and heard about plans to build a city there. I thought it would be a good idea and probably a nice place to raise a family," Aronson related.

While in Belgium, he kept Yamit in mind. Remembering the beauty of the new town's sand dunes, he looked into the possibility of buying a dune buggy.

"I spoke with the head of a car factory there, a Flemish fellow named Vandaeler. He invited me over for lunch since he was interested in the Israeli market, and we struck up a friendship almost immediately." I told him that I thought his car would suit Israeli conditions very well and that it could probably be built here a lot cheaper than in Belgium. He wound up selling me one of his cars to bring back.

According to Aronson there are only 20 or 30 such cars here today. Naturally, the customs and licensing

people had a difficult time relating to it. "In Europe the car cost me only around \$2,000. In Haifa customs wanted me to pay another IL37,000. But that was only the beginning of my problems. I paid all of the duties and got a temporary license. They told me that for a permanent license the car would have to be approved for road-safety by the Technion.

"I went to the Technion. They measured it and turned it upside-down and inside-out. They insisted I add a rear bumper. They also didn't like the way the roll-bar was situated, Aronson says.

After paying the Technion IL500 for their test, he paid a Tel Aviv lawyer, over IL3,000, to make the changes. Then went back to the Licence Bureau.

Overcoming discouragement, Aronson finally got his buggy licensed and today uses it to drive along the Yamit beach and through the surrounding dunes. He feels that a dune buggy factory would make an ideal industry for the area. "The factory in Belgium is interested in producing the buggy here in Israel because of the proximity to their African markets."

He also envisions a buggy rental agency in Yamit. "We could make a nice long track through the sand dunes. I'd even like to see a dune buggy rally some day between Yamit and Nir-Ezra, through Sina'i. He has even thought of selling

Small White Car as sacrificial dog

By HELGA DUDMAN

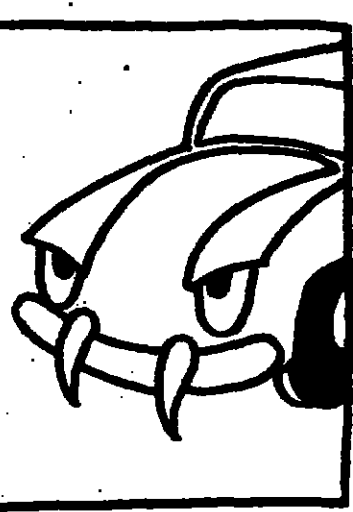
A small white car with a torn blue seatbelt and a flea-bitten muffler is suspected of being dangerous, it was announced yesterday by the Ministry of Racing Around. The car, ministry sources revealed, may have run down an old lady in Jerusalem, raced up the curb after three, teen-agers in Petah Tikva, and chased a young mother in Hadera.

The driver may also have bitten eight children, it was added, since his behaviour cannot be rationally explained.

The news electrified the country. How marvellous! Palpable evil concentrated in one small white car, with torn seatbelt! The game was avarice, and happy throngs began playing it from Dan to Beersheba.

A group of alert citizens in Givatayim surrounded a medium-size white car with a grey seatbelt and stoned it into insensibility. In North Tel Aviv, an enraged aunt poured boiling oil over three grey cars parked on the sidewalk, thus satisfying a long-standing urge. "I haven't felt so good in years," she told Israel Radio.

Three psychiatrists, questioned while kicking the bumper of a Volvo which was hooting viciously in the middle of a Herzliya driveway, noted that the "small white car syndrome" provided a "healthy



release for an otherwise frustrated public."

On the other hand, a group of unemployed mothers in Ramat Hasharon, asked why they were dancing around a large bonfire on which had been hung a pedigreed Volkswagen, a brown-and-beige spotted Fiat, and an Audi in heat, responded with shrill cries and ethnic taunts.

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION: The Jerusalem Post Building,
Jerusalem, P.O. Box 81 (9100). Telephone: 226181; Telex: 226181.
TELETYPE: 11: Rehov Carlebach, P.O. Box 2012 (9120). Telephone: 226222.
HAIFA: 34 Rehov Herzl, Hader Haemud, P.O. Box 490 (31040). Telephone: 226222.
ERUSALEM BRANCH (advertising, subscription): 6 Rehov Artichukim, Telephone: 226222.
Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel, by the Palestine Post Ltd.
Printed at the Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O.
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1976 • VOL. XLVI, No. 13893

Issue of local elections

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS raised by this week's dramatic resignation of Prime Minister Rabin, which certainly did not figure in his original calculations, is the timing of the elections to the local authorities. Under law these were to be held concurrently with balloting to the Knesset on November 1. Now that the Knesset poll is certain to take place in the late spring, the fate of the local government elections is up in the air.

Three proposals have been under consideration during the last few days: retaining the original November 1 date for the local elections; holding them together with the Knesset elections in the spring; or putting them off to some date in 1978.

The latter suggestion is undoubtedly the worst of the three. We have had a long history of playing fast and loose with voting dates for nearly all elective institutions, excepting the Knesset. This has been true, in varying degrees, for the World Zionist Congress, the Histadrut, national trade unions, local authorities, and internal party organs.

In recent years there has been the beginning of a trend towards greater observance of the letter of the law in regard to election dates. Postponing local government elections to 1978 would be a deplorable reversion to our older, reprehensible ways.

The major argument offered in favour of keeping the same date for the local and Knesset elections is that it would help save money. Duplicate elections, it is said, would cost double the money — not to mention double the wear and tear on political nerves.

While there is a measure of validity to this claim, there is also no little degree of effrontery to it, considering its source. The very people now crying "economy" are the ones who have inflated Treasury payments to the political parties by some tens of millions of pounds annually, and to over IL20m. this year — all of it fully linked to the index. This has been defended on the ground that political parties are the lifeblood of democracy, and that democracy does not come cheap. Well, neither do elections.

Moreover, there is a telling argument for the separation — not only next year, but as a regular practice — of national and local elections. This is the need to emphasize the paramountcy of local issues in local elections. The bias against municipal government built into our political system has had disastrous effects on the quality of our life.

The principle of separation acquires special importance now that we enter a new era in local government with the entry into force of the law on the direct election of mayors and heads of local councils. Under the new law, already applied in the Nazareth elections last December, there will be separate voting for mayors and local council members. In the case of mayoralty elections only candidates receiving at least 40 per cent of the vote will be elected outright.

This means, in effect, that in most of the local authorities run-off elections between the two leading candidates will probably have to be held. In order to ensure adequate participation in the council run-off vote, the entire process must be detached from the hubbub surrounding a national poll.

No tampering with the economy

WHATEVER THE MAKE-UP of the Cabinet that succeeds the coalition Prime Minister Rabin dissolved on Monday, it will be a caretaker administration until the elections due next year. The first necessity is to make sure that interim government does not turn out to be bad government.

This warning concerns the Opposition as well as those in the seat of power. There are hints that the Likud, in a proper electioneering spirit, are going to stonewall tax legislation. Their hope presumably is not to weaken the Government, since there is nothing to weaken: the Alignment will be marking time until polling day. The objective among Mr. Begin's men can only be — to find favour with the public.

The public lost faith in the last Government's economic policy because it failed to control inflation. Yet Finance Minister Rabinowitz deserves credit for trying his best to augment revenue and cut expenditure. He succeeded only in part. Critics said he was still oversteering — for practising the sin of deficit budgeting.

Three fiscal measures are to be tabled in the Knesset shortly: a new property tax arrangement, a prolongation of the payroll tax, and a prolongation of the Defence Loan. If these measures are not passed, the revenue accounts will be short of IL2,000m. during the coming fiscal year. To block these laws would mean to widen an already sizable deficit in Mr. Rabinowitz's budget; in other words, to give a further fillip to inflation.

The question facing every faction in the coming months is what kind of policy to propound: whether to court cheap publicity by advocating more purchasing-power, bigger allowances, cheaper housing and lower taxes; or to offer a hard prospect of self-discipline and self-restraint, designed to serve the long-term national interest.

The public senses more than before the gravity of the ordeals that are going to face the nation after the parliamentary elections. All sides in the coming political debate would do well to bear that in mind.

ISRAEL PRESS

After the resignation

DAVAR (Histadrut) asserts that, in the conditions created, "the only practical possibility" is for the Rabin Government to serve as a transition government until the forthcoming elections. Speculation about the formation of an alternative government, without the Labour Party, "is not serious," for no such alternative will be able to gain a majority in the Knesset.

AL HANISHIMAR (Mapam) avers that Begin's attempt to form "a government of the right" until the elections is in effect an "anti-Alignment, anti-work" tactic and the possible components of such a government "have nothing programmatic in common, but only hatred for the Labour Movement." The paper expresses the hope that "this exercise of Begin's" will fail and that a law for dispersing the Knesset will be quickly enacted.

HATZOFEN (National Religious Party) believes that Rabin's move are "the antithesis to democratic rules of administration," for the Premier "has manoeuvred so as to concentrate the entire government in the hands of one party during the election campaign."

HA'ARETZ (Independent) addresses itself to the plight of the Independent Liberal Ministers, and points out that the relevant law was enacted in order to prevent the creation of a vacuum in the executive branch during a transition period. The paper calls on Kol and Saamer to remain in the government. "This will not forestall their lending a hand to the establishment of a Liberal Centre, if they so desire," and if anyone claims that they couldn't bear to give up their posts, "they can contend that all this evil has befallen them because of their desperate attempt to attain fulfilment of their just demands regarding health insurance, compulsory arbitration and reform in the structure of the government ministries."

MA'ARIV (Independent), noting that the Interior Ministry could complete preparations for elections within two months, wonders what justification there is for holding them in five, as the Alignment is about to propose. "A transition government without a majority and which cannot be toppled and which is immune to a no-confidence motion, is a necessity in an interim period."

Plan for a caretaker government

By MISHA LOUVINE

FOR THE FIRST TIME in its history, Israel now has a Labour Government free from the constraints of coalition. (The presence of two reluctant ILP ministers will not make much of a difference.) The Government will, of course, be hampered by the lack of a Knesset majority; yet in this entirely novel situation the Government will enjoy vast new opportunities — and important responsibilities as well.

There can now be no more alibis. During the next two or three months, the electorate will be watching to see how Labour is running the country. The ruling party will have no one to blame but itself if it flunks the test.

It should be emphasized that a Cabinet that has resigned — but is continuing in office as a so-called "caretaker" — is not only entitled but is duty-bound to exercise all the functions of government, until a replacement has been formed. The only practical limitations on its freedom of action will be those which derive from the powers possessed by the Knesset.

The situation during the coming period, until after the elections, will be similar, in some respects, to the constitutional set-up in the United States. Like an American President, the Israeli Premier will have control of the administrative machinery, but he will have to use persuasion to obtain parliamentary support.

FOR A START, Mr. Rabin should immediately take the first steps in the reorganization of the governmental machinery. Although he cannot co-opt additional ministers, his Cabinet is empowered to redistribute the functions of its members. Instead of merely en-

trusting the Social Welfare Ministry to one of the ministers, for example, the Premier could set up at once a Ministry of Social Betterment, comprising health and some other departments.

Another reform, already agreed upon in principle, is the expansion of the Housing Ministry to comprise public works, physical planning, and allied activities. Religious Affairs could be combined with Interior, and Tourism with Transportation or with Commerce and Industry.

In implementing these reforms, the Premier could carry out a limited reshuffle of the Cabinet. Of course, he cannot bring in new ministers, but some promising younger men could be enabled to show their mettle by having them appointed as deputy ministers. This would help take some of the load off the shoulders of Cabinet members, who are now rather fewer in number.

In dealing with economic affairs, the Government will certainly be hampered by the fact that it can be easily outvoted by the Opposition in the legislature. But it should not be afraid to take bold decisions and challenge the Opposition to take the responsibility for frustrating measures that are clearly in the public interest.

Above all, the Government must show its authority in handling exorbitant wage claims; a display of weakness in this area would be disastrous. Labour representatives in

the Histadrut, who have recently been acting in opposition to their comrades in the Cabinet, should consider carefully whether the workers would be better off under a Likud-dominated Government. Nothing would so gravely discredit Labour as an epidemic of wage disputes.

LABOUR HAS BEEN accused by Professor Yadin and others of doing nothing to implement its declared policy of electoral reform. This measure is at present held up in committee, not only by the obstruction of the committee chairman but by new demands presented by the Liberals, who originally undertook to support it. Labour should make one last effort to get agreement with the Liberals and, if that proves impossible, put the draft reform bill to the vote in committee. If it is defeated there, it should be resubmitted to the Knesset, so that the responsibility for the defeat of this vitally important reform should be made perfectly clear.

With regard to negotiations for a peace settlement with Israel's Arab neighbours, the Government has formal authority to pursue its policy, but it could not commit the country to any definite agreements until after the election. In the meantime, it should demonstrate its positions by pushing forward with the discussions, through the U.S., with a view to the reconvening of the Geneva Conference or the opening of talks on a partial accord. In any case, the electorate should be able to see clearly the direction in which the Government is moving, so that they may be able to hand down a meaningful verdict at the polls.

POSTSCRIPTS



Saul Bellow (Rubinger)

NOBEL Literature Prize laureate Saul Bellow passed through London on his way back from the Stockholm award ceremony and used the opportunity to attend a seminar being held there in solidarity with the Jewish Symposium in Moscow.

He told the gathering that his presence "spoke for Israel." He added that he would not make a formal speech, but only tell of a moving experience he had had during the Nobel Prize ceremony.

"A man came up to me and said in Yiddish: 'I am a Jew born in Poland.' When I asked what had brought him to the Stockholm ceremony, he replied: 'I came to get nachas (to feel good).'"

Bellow added: "I've come here to get nachas, too."

A BUSY Jerusalem insurance executive was looking for an unusual way of entertaining his small children during this week's school holidays.

Possibly inspired by the railway hikes described in this paper's Midweek Magazine he looked up possible excursions by train, and found that certain passenger trains from Jerusalem and from Tel Aviv arrived at Beit Shemesh at the same time. He phoned the station-master there and asked whether it would be possible for passengers to change trains during the brief stop.

The station-master was more than helpful. Not only was the change possible, but he himself would see that the transfer was comfortably achieved.

As good as his word, he was there to meet the train on their arrival, took them to the other train, waited on the platform until they were safely aboard, gave a smart signal to the engine-driver, wished them "bon voyage" — and won for Israel Railways three firm friends in Jerusalem. There have not been so many of them since the days of the late David Remez, first Minister of Transport.

WUJS is the uninspiring acronym denoting the World Union of Jewish Students, which is presumably the nucleus of future Jewish leadership. If this were not the normal presumption, there would be little newsworthy in a statement contained in the report by the outgoing chairman of WUJS.

Mr. Ron Finkel, who has headed the students' activities for the past three years, now states that "The World Union of Jewish Students regards the Middle East situation as 'a conflict between the two rights'."

WUJS, which is supported by funds from the World Jewish Congress and the Jewish Agency, also prides itself on its campaign for human rights for Jews in the USSR and for blacks in South Africa.

The Organization is to hold a congress in Oxford in the first week of January and hopes that a delegate from Cuba will be among the 120 representatives expected from 35 countries.

READERS' LETTERS

ISRAEL-BORN AMERICAN JEWS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I read with interest and sympathy the appeal of Dr. Joseph Kopecky to be allowed to visit his mother in Israel. (On December 7, Dr. Kopecky complained because the Israeli Consulate in Los Angeles had informed him that, since he was born in Israel 27 years ago and had already visited here when he was 18 and 20 years old, he could not do so again without being drafted. — Ed. J.P.)

I came to Israel as a Mahal specialist and served in a senior rank. My son had the apparent misfortune of being born in Israel during the period of my Mahal service. He was registered as a U.S. citizen at a time when we were not even officially residents. After serving for an additional period as an approved foreign expert (Sec.14), I returned to the U.S. with my family in 1958.

As involved Jews we made the further mistake of sending our son to Israel for a one-month summer visit when he was 18. When he married, his honeymoon trip included a three-week stay in Israel. What was to be an opportunity to see the country, turned into an almost three-week nightmare at various Defence Ministry offices attempting to get permission to leave the country. He and his bride saw nothing, wasted the time and left discouraged and disillusioned.

Then in 1973 we apparently committed our final error. We came on aliyah and, in fact, four of our children and seven grandchildren have come as well.

Since I served as an officer in both the U.S. Navy and in the I.D.F., I can hardly be considered one who condones military service, apparently the purpose behind this unfair regulation.

Certainly, no credit is due for volunteer service to the country. However, we find ourselves penalized instead. We cannot enjoy a visit from our son and his family, nor can his siblings. If we of the Israel branch of the family wish to visit him (all 16 of us), besides the cost of transportation, we must pay

"STOP ARGUING — CONFESS"

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I noted with a degree of anxiety the heading of the recent episode of "Siberian Odyssey": "Stop arguing — confess" (Midweek Magazine, December 7).

This unfortunately seems to typify the Israeli police force attitude to suspects. If they are, or were, people of relative importance within the community. Surely a nation of people who have suffered in many societies due to repressive and unjust laws would attempt to assure that they themselves did not assume police state tactics. I cannot understand the public apathy to a system which allows seemingly endless demands until a confession is given.

P. SCEVITY

Kibbutz Sde Boker.

ISRAEL RAILWAYS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — With reference to your article, "Driving in torture" (November 26), I would suggest that Israelis make more use of their railways in order to ease the burden on the roads. As a tourist in Israel, I travelled extensively on the railways and found them very comfortable. I read in an earlier issue of The Jerusalem Post that there is a project to cut a new railway from Dimona to Eilat — the sooner this is completed, the better for Israel.

May I suggest a station on the Haifa-Jerusalem line near Ben-Gurion airport which the railway skirts? Remember, your railways are directly and indirectly saving lives.

WILLIAM FINOX
Birmingham, England.

Dry Bones



Middle East prospects

THE SAUDIS are throwing their full weight against an open door when they use all policy to press the United States into pushing Israel to negotiate for a settlement in the Middle East. For the present Israeli regime, as the latest political developments make plain, is actually eager to negotiate.

As a result, the incoming Carter Administration now enjoys a double opportunity. It has the luxury to accommodate this country's interest in a just settlement in the Near East with its interest in a serious energy policy.

By Joseph Kraft
Washington

The Israeli eagerness to negotiate springs from the inner necessities of domestic politics. The dominant labour party of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin faces so much trouble in the form of inflation, strikes and internal division — that the only card it can play with public opinion is that of potential peacemaker.

Mr. Rabin has announced this fact in many different ways over the past few weeks. First he told visitors, including this columnist, that he intended to go to the country on the peace issue in the elections due next year.

Next he passed the word discreetly to both the Ford Administration and senior foreign policy officials of the incoming Carter Administration. That job was done by a supposed Israeli hawk, Defence Minister Shimon Peres.

MR. PERES met with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in Washington on the afternoon of Dec. 11. That evening he met with Secretary of State-designate Cyrus Vance and Mr. Carter's appointee as National Security adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, at the home of Warren Manahel, a New York banker and publisher. Mr. Brzezinski came away from that session convinced that the internal competition in Israel was to be a peacemaker, not a hawk.

Finally, there has been the break with the coalition party most opposed to concession of territories — the National Religious Party. That cleared the way for an early election in which Mr. Rabin can go to the country asking for a mandate to make concessions.

In these circumstances the pressure to negotiate from Saudi by Ambassador Ahl Beza with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, are not so far from the Israeli notions.

Moreover, the oil policy selected by the Saudis as a means of pressure on Washington is by no means unwelcome. In order to impress the U.S., the Saudis, it may be recalled, have split with other countries in



Double opportunity

OPEC. While the other OPEC countries decided to raise oil prices by 10 per cent now and 5 per cent in 90 days, the Saudis and their proteges, the United Arab Emirates, have elected to increase prices by only 5 per cent now.

The immediate upshot is a slightly smaller price increase than otherwise would have obtained. That, in itself, is a slight gain.

The gain can be made a good deal bigger given present circumstances in the U.S. My strong impression is that America, after a couple of years of infighting, has finally achieved a general consensus that something needs to be done about dependence on foreign oil.

FURTHERMORE, it is already clear that the Democrats can take one vital step which they would not let the Republicans take. Because they are not suspected of being flaks for industry, the Democrats can allow prices to rise. The price increase will go a long way — on top of measures already taken — to foster energy conservation in the U.S.

One final, and all-important, step is also open. President-elect Carter can flash to the world that he is dead serious about putting together a coherent energy policy. He can do that by naming former Defence Secretary James Schlesinger as energy czar, with the all-out mandate Mr. Schlesinger seeks as a condition for taking the job.

The U.S. then, be in a strong position to make the most of the double opportunity. It could foster Saudi moderation on price by going for the serious negotiations which the Israelis want anyhow. It can use Saudi moderation on price to prevent the OPEC hawks from truly devastating rises. The gradual rise which is inevitable are merely a spur to the one thing this country most needs in the energy field — coherent long-term programme.

Managing all this, to be sure, is no going to be simple, especially for new boys. Progress, far from coming overnight, will have to be strung out over months and years. But for the first time, there is manoeuvring room, leeway to play the oil-Middle Eastern hand as it should be played.



The Menten Affair...

Henrietta Boas reports from Amsterdam on the case of the Dutch millionaire — and Nazi war criminal Pieter Menten. OPEC and the oil price hike: Shmuel Yaari looks at the recent "split" among the oil-producers.

WOODOO: Aliza Auerbach brings back some startling photographs of a black magic ceremony in Haiti. CHRISTIAN SHRINES in Galilee are visited by Sylvia Mann. COLUMNS BY Lea Ben Dor, Helga Dudman, Alex Berlyne, Moshe Kohn and Ephraim Rishon.

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